

Status Last Updated:	7/14/03
Status Updated By:	GS-11 Skebo, Donna M
Justification for the archive:	Final SPD has been signed by DC, CD. Issue moved to portfolio for further action.

Part 1a of 5 - Originator's Request

Originator

Name (Last, First, Initial)	Core, Jerome		Rank/Grade	Major	
Phone	703-784-3372		Fax	703-784-3204	
Available for phone or personal follow-up?	Yes	Interested in participation on Solution Course of Action?	Yes	Request UNS status updates by e-mail?	Yes
E-mail	corej@tecom.usmc.mil		RUC	30002	

Type Of Need

IMPROVE or FIX an existing capability

Description of Need

Need: To replace current analog National Television Standards Commission (NTSC) television, broadcasting, editing, and recording equipment with equipment that meets the digital high definition television (DTV) standards and technology. The Marine Corps relies heavily on television and videotape delivery for training, education and information. In addition, every command Combat Visual Information Center (CVIC) and Public Affairs Office (PAO) utilizes NTSC imagery acquisition, editing and broadcast equipment to perform its assigned mission. Every command center, emergency operation center, video teleconferencing facility, training classroom, conference room, briefing room, auditorium, and work space that has a television or videocassette recorder (VCR) will be impacted by this replacement.

Cause: The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 and Federal Communication Commission (FCC) regulations have mandated the conversion from NTSC to DTV take place no later than December 31, 2006. Once implemented, all television and VCR tuners/receivers must be capable of appropriately decoding and displaying the video scanning formats of DTV or become obsolete. Without this decoding capability the equipment is rendered useless for receiving DTV broadcast information or interoperating with upgraded systems.

When Needed

5 Years

Rationale

Due to the mandated time frame initiated or mandated by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 and FCC regulations (FCC 98-23 para 45), the Marine Corps must be poised to procure and field equipment in 2005/2006 that is compliant and capable within these standards.

Describe mission or task to be accomplished that is related to the need

The availability of broadcasted information is critical to military training and information delivery on a daily basis. The ability to provide real-time visual information hinges on the ability to receive and decode signals generated in DTV format whether from a commercial/military broadcast facility or videotape. Today's visual information based environment significantly contributes to the commander's decision-making process. Information available via the Commander's Cable Channel reaches thousands of Marines, Sailors, and government employees each day. Distant Learning relies heavily on television and video technology.

How does the need improve your ability to perform the mission or task?

The transition to digital is occurring in all media technologies. Transition to DTV will provide for sustained training and information delivery and will ensure interoperability with cable television providers, video teleconferencing systems, training tapes, and video camera formats.

If the need is not satisfied, how will it affect your ability to perform the mission or task?

If not satisfied, thousands of televisions and videocassette recorders will become obsolete when the transition from NTSC to DTV is completed. This obsolescence will have a significant and negative impact on the ability to deliver training and information over broadcasted mediums. Training videotapes produced prior to and after December 31, 2006 will be produced in the DTV format. Formal school curriculum is dependant on this medium for instruction delivery. Without this conversion, schools will on forced to rely on obsolete training aids. Emergency operations centers will not be capable of obtaining quality signals from local and national news agencies, federal emergency broadcasts, or other upgraded military services' command information channels.

Approval Authority (MARFOR level or as appropriate)

Office (symbol):	Training & Education Command (TECOM)	Mailing Address:	CG TECOM MCORD 610
------------------	--------------------------------------	------------------	-----------------------

Name of approval authority: (Last, First, Initial)	Jones, Thomas S.		MCCDC (C46) 3300 Russell Road Quantico, VA 22134-4001
Rank/Grade:	MajGen	E-Mail:	
Phone:	703-784-3730	Fax:	703-784-3724
Date Received:	11/08/2001	Date Fwd'd to Assessment Branch, MCCDC	11/15/2001

Approval Authority Comments

Hard copy with GO signature on file in Assessments Branch.